

Sikes Act Implementation Tripartite Planning Meeting

Shepherdstown, WV 26-28 April 2004

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Background

- Endangered Species Act
 - Consult on activities that may affect a listed species or its designated habitat
- >Sikes Act
 - Develop and implement INRMPs
- National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2004
 - CH designation precluded when an INRMP provides benefit to a species



Impact of NDAA Legislation

- NDAA changes require in practice, if not legally, that INRMPs meet higher standards for preparation, coordination and implementation
- Additional scrutiny will demand more resources from the tripartite parties



Why a Workshop?

- Workshop Goal
 - Develop a Strategic Action Plan to resolve Sikes Act Improvement Act implementation issues
- Workshop Objectives
 - For each topic, identify key questions and potential solutions
 - Engage representatives from all tripartite stakeholders



Key Workshop Topics

- Planning for INRMP Revisions
- Improving the INRMP Process
- Ensuring Implementation Success



Planning for INRMP Revisions

- What is a revision? A review?
 - What level of NEPA analysis is required?
 - What level of public involvement?
 - How to document annual reviews?
- How to prioritize which INRMPs are reviewed first?
- How can internal review processes be improved?
- How do the ESA and the RRPI apply to revisions?



Improving the INRMP Process

- How to establish an effective team?
- How can state and regional conservation priorities and plans be incorporated?
- Should there be an INRMP template?
- How to report on implementation progress and effectiveness?
 - Should there be a standardized "report card"?
 - What constitutes an annual review?
 - Are new metrics needed?



Ensuring Implementation Success

- How to better use cooperative agreements?
- How can installations successfully implement INRMPs if "must fund" projects are not being funded?
- What tools are needed?



The Way Forward

An INMRP
Strategic Action
Plan

